



PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Alain GANTIER)
Appln. No. : 09/937,016) Group Art Unit 3728
Docket No. : P21432) Examiner Jila Mohandes
Customer No. : 7055) Confirmation No. 3081
I.A. Filed : January 22, 2001)
Title : MOVABLE COVER FOR RIGIDIFYING)
AND/OR PROTECTING THE FRONT)
FACE OF AN ARTICLE OF FOOTWEAR,)
SUCH AS A SNOWBOARD BOOT)

STATEMENT REGARDING SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street South
Customer Window, Mail Stop *Amendment*
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Applicant here replies to the requirement, set forth in the Interview Summary (form PTOL-413), mailed on December 28, 2004, "to file a statement of the substance of the interview" conducted on December 21, 2004 in the office of Examiner Mohandes with Applicant's undersigned representative.

A time period of one month from the date of mailing of the notice was given for filing this statement.

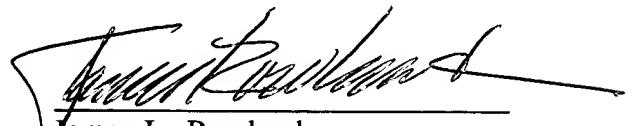
The substance of the interview described on the aforementioned Interview Summary that was prepared by the Examiner is believed to be correct.

As alluded to therein, Applicant's representative summarized amendments and arguments that were presented in Applicant's reply, which had been filed on September 29, 2004, to the Examiner's Final Office action. At the time of the interview, no action had yet been taken following the mailing of an Advisory Action, on October 21, 2004, denying entry of the amendments that had been presented in Applicant's reply of September 29, 2004.

Among other matters, Applicant's representative pointed out that the newly cited CATAFFO patent has been distinguished by Applicant's at least inasmuch as the lower leg shield 14 of CATAFFO is not itself fixed or connected to the upper of CATAFFO's shoe in the manner claimed by Applicant; instead, it is forwardly spaced forwardly so that the pant leg of the wearer can be positioned between the shield and the remainder of the shoe.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone or fax number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
Alain GANTIER



James L. Rowland
Reg. No. 32,674

January 28, 2005
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